

the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.

Field of the Invention—

In the Claims:

Please delete Claims 29, 38, 45 and 52.

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) A system according to Claim 2 wherein the camera is provided with cross-polarised filtration so as to produce a cross-polarised image.

5. (Amended) A system according to Claim 2 wherein the camera is pre-set and/or pre-programmed to a specified focal length.

7. (Amended) A system according Claim 2 further including a camera housing assembly for supporting the camera.

10. (Amended) A system according to claim 8 wherein the light source comprises a plurality of light spots.

12. (Amended) A system according to Claim 7 wherein the camera housing assembly further comprises a telescopic member for preventing incidental light entering an image field of shot.

14. (Amended) A system according to Claim 12 wherein the telescopic member, in use, is extended prior to taking an image and is retracted when not in use.

15. (Amended) A system according to Claim 7 wherein the camera housing assembly further

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comprises means for assessing distance between the camera and the object to be imaged.

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18. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1 further including a reference colour indicator placed in close proximity to the object or associated with the means for taking a coloured image of an object so that the captured image contains a reference colour.

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21. (Amended) A system according to Claims 18 wherein the reference colour indicator comprises a substantially U or L shaped block or a sheet or paper.

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22. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1 wherein the means for relaying the captured image to a place remote from a location where the image was captured is an electronic communication means.

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25. (Amended) A system according to Claim 4, wherein the means for analysing the colour values is a computer software program which is capable of converting the cross-polarised image of the original object into a plurality of colour components.

26. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1 wherein the colour values of the captured image of the original object colour are represented by intensities of red, blue and green colour components.

27. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1 wherein said system is configured for use in colour matching a natural tooth or set of teeth so that a dental prosthesis can be constructed to match the natural tooth of a patient.

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32. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further including the step of reducing/preventing incidental light from entering a field of shot.

33. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further including the step of including a

reference colour indicator with the captured image.

35. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further including the step of relaying the colour values back to a location where the original image was captured so that a comparison can be made between the colour of the original object and that of the reconstituted colour image.

36. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 wherein a VDU is provided at the place where the image was captured and/or where the captured image is relayed for analysis is provided with software for correcting reference colour red, green and blue values on the monitor/screen so that a displayed image on the VDU is colour corrected with respect to the reference colour.

37. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further including the step of committing to memory or storing a colour recipe in a central data bank.

38. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further including any one or more of the features recited in claims 2 to 26.

39. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30 when used in colour matching a natural tooth or set of teeth with a dental prosthesis.

42. (Amended) A method according to Claim 40 wherein the skeletal reference point is at the bridge of the patient's nose or nap of his/her chin, the nap being formed at the junction of the lower jaw and bottom set of teeth.

43. (Amended) A method according to Claim 39 wherein the camera position with respect to the patient is monitored by aligning horizontal and vertical cross hairs or by a common point when left and right light beams or lasers coincide.

Q13 46. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1 wherein the object is one of textiles, paints, dyes, car body parts, cosmetics, hair dyes, skin preparations and pigments in picture restoration.

47. (Amended) The system according to Claim 28, wherein the object is one of precious metals, gems and stones, currency notes, identity pictures/photographs and batch colouring processes.

48. (Amended) The method according to Claim 30, wherein the object is one of textiles, paints, dyes, car body parts, pigments in picture restoration and cosmetics.

49. (Amended) The method according to Claim 44 wherein the object is one of metals, gems and stones, currency notes, identity pictures/photographs and batch colouring processes.

50. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1 wherein the object is a natural tooth.

51. (Amended) The method according to Claim 30, wherein the object is a natural tooth.

Q14 53. (Amended) A method according to Claim 30, wherein the image is a part of a body and wherein relaying the image comprises relaying the images to a health care professional remote from a patient so that a diagnosis can be made without the patient needing to be physically present.

54. (Amended) The method according to Claim 52, wherein the object is a subject with a condition where the physical appearance and colour of an organ is a relevant diagnostic factor.

55. (Amended) A dental prosthesis product produced by the method according to Claim 30.

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56. (Amended) A method of making a dental prosthesis comprising the steps of:

- (i) determining shade variations within a tooth;
- (ii) replicating the shade variations in a prosthesis by selecting a match from a predetermined range of ceramics colours for individual areas of the tooth; and
- (iii) constructing a prosthesis by painting or otherwise applying different shades of ceramics to a base prosthesis so as to match the colour variations in the tooth.